



Keeping in Touch

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304, Los Angeles, CA 90020-9990 (213) 464-5100

SEPTEMBER

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by Sep. 15th 1984
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas - TX	\$1799.68
MCC of the Resurrection - Houston, TX	1434.06
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldl., FL	917.17
MCC Long Beach - CA	897.44
MCC in the Valley - N. Hollywood, CA	820.31
MCC Seattle - WA	561.96
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - TX	540.24
MCC of Greater St. Louis - MO	511.59
MCC Los Angeles - CA	496.53
MCC Portland - OR	454.63
MCC New York - NY	436.89
Casa de Cristo MCC - Phoenix, AZ	395.21
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	391.05
MCC San Jose - CA	385.71
MCC Washington - DC	384.97
Joy MCC - Orlando, FL	337.29
MCC Albuquerque - NM	317.64
MCC San Antonio - TX	301.86
MCC of the Pomona Valley - Ontario, CA	295.56
River City MCC - Sacramento, CA	285.79

SEPTEMBER

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by Sept. 15th 1984
(Per Capita)

MCC of the Blessed Redeemer - Atlanta, GA	\$27.11
MCC Ocean of Life - CA	27.05
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	21.13
MCC of the Vineyard - Fresno, CA	18.26
Pikes Peak MCC - Colorado Springs, CA	16.82
MCC Providence - RI	16.75
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - TX	16.42
Calvary MCC - Redwood City, CA	16.35
MCC of the Desert - Cathedral, CA	14.40
MCC of Greater St. Louis - MO	14.21
MCC Mid-Cities - Arlington, TX	14.20
Diablo Valley MCC - Concord, CA	13.94
MCC Portland - OR	13.77
MCC of Acadiana - Lafayette, LA	13.77
MCC San Jose - CA	13.72
MCC of Dallas - TX	12.80
MCC of Birmingham - AL	12.79
De Colores MCC - Los Angeles, CA	12.69
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldl., FL	12.46
MCC Albuquerque - NM	12.12

* *. * PRAISES * *. *

"GOD, GAYS AND THE GOSPEL: THIS IS OUR STORY," is completed and is in post-production -- all UFMCC churches should be receiving a special press release about this. The final, post-production costs are less than \$10,000. An update on the finances and the distribution process will also be forthcoming. Praise God! Keep the whole Fellowship in your prayers as we begin preparing for the impact of this exciting TV documentary about the birth, growth and ministry of MCC!

The National Council of Churches has formed a special committee to work with people from UFMCC to create a process and program of ongoing dialogue between the UFMCC and the NCC. They have invited our input in preparation for their meeting in November in New Brunswick, N.J. In addition, a group of parliamentarians have concluded that MCC's application statue is as follows: our application remains on file - we may continue to update it, and we are the ones who will request the application to be reconsidered. We do not have to re-apply for membership. In the news recently, the NCC is recommending that Rev. Arie Brouwer, former head of the Reformed Church in America, and presently a deputy secretary of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, became the new general secretary of the National Council. Rev. Brouwer was a member of the NCC's Constituent Membership Committee during the last triennium when MCC's application came before them. He is highly regarded by liberals and conservatives alike on the Council as an outstanding ecumenical Christian and church leader.

A new publication of the Universal Fellowship, "The MCC Starter Kit" (which replaces, revises and greatly enhances the former "How To Start A Study Group") is on its way to the printer soon and will be available for sale no later than December 1, 1984. A special order form will be included in a future "Keeping in Touch."

Rev. Jim Mitulski reports that the Hymnody Committee had an exciting meeting over Labor Day weekend in Dallas, Tx. The committee is putting all the hymns on the Dallas computer - hymnody in UFMCC meets the technological age!

We are excited to welcome to our staff Mr. Jim Voltz, who is coordinating the 1985 General Conference in Sacramento, Ca. Registration materials and more information will be forthcoming in the next month or so - watch for it!

*** PRAISES ***

Rev. Bob Cunningham reports that the Ku Klux Klan is leafletting in the Galveston, Tx. area with threats against gays and lesbians. Keep the gay and lesbian community there in your prayers.

Please submit items for our "PRAISES" or your concerns to "Keeping in Touch," 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., #304, Los Angeles, Ca., 90029.

The Samaritan Management Team is accepting resumes for the Chair of the newly established Development Committee. The Chair will appoint Committee Members. The Committee is responsible for proposing and, with Team approval, conducting fundraising programs to insure the financial security of Samaritan Educational Ministries. The Team is interested in persons with professional fundraising experience, especially for educational institutions. Please send resumes to the following address by December 1, 1984.

Samaritan Management Team
c/o Samaritan College
3327 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90004

Jean White also reports that she met with some interested individuals in Fitges, Spain, and Jean will return to meet with them in January. Pray for MCC in Europe!

Rev. Elder Jean White will also be visiting our churches in New Zealand and Southern Australia at the end of November and beginning of December.

Praise God for new Hispanic Americas congregation and outreaches in Tijuana, Mexico, Long Beach, Ca., the San Fernando Valley, Ca. and Dallas, Texas!

The Lesbian and Gay Interfaith Alliance will be meeting October 12-14, 1984 in San Francisco, Ca. Our representatives to this organization that we helped to found will be Elder Michael Mank, Carolyn Mobley (MCC Atlanta, Chair of our delegation), Ted Patterson (MCC Minneapolis) and Rev. Michael England (MCC San Francisco). The organization currently includes over 20 groups serving Gay and Lesbian Christians and Jews in North America.

Our churches in England and Denmark are planning to come to the Board of Elders in November asking to be made a District in the Universal Fellowship! Their plan is for the new churches in the rest of Europe to become a New European Extension Area.

Our love and prayers go out to Rev. Rob Shivers, whose father died recently. Expressions of concern and love may be sent to her c/o our church in Columbus, Ohio, P.O. Box 10009, Columbus, Ohio, 43201.

MCC Las Vegas has also purchased a building, and Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson and Rev. Tom Jordan will be present to celebrate the weekend of October 12-14th.

MCC Detroit dedicates their new building this month! They welcome Rev. Elder Freda Smith to assist them in this important moment!

MCC Lafayette, Louisiana had a record attendance of 91 as they celebrated their Chartering with Rev. Elder Troy Perry.

Rev. Perry also reports that our new Study Group in Baton Rouge, Louisiana is growing under the capable direction of newly-licensed Rev. Ron Coons - they had 124 persons in attendance during Rev. Perry's recent visit.

WE HAVE A NEW MCC IN LEON, FRANCE! Rev. Elder Jean White just returned from 11 days in that country, and is pleased to announce the birth of a new group. They are meeting in a gay hotel in Leon, under the direction of a former Assemblies of God Pastor.

NEWS FROM NIGERIA

Our church Extension Coordinator, Rev. Sylvanus Maduka, writes earlier this summer:

"It is a pity to inform you that thieves made into the home of Mr. Anayo Nivosu, the Worship Coordinator for the Banchi, Gombe and Dadinkowa churches and made away with...many household items, his motor cycle, etc. The thieves hit him in the chest with a rifle and raped his wife and sister living with him.

The whole family are now in the hospital receiving treatment...The police in Gombe have arrested the men...Some one was sent from there to come and call me. We were able to provide them with some good items and a little money to live on while I contacted you. There is progress in every other church except the change in government that brought untold hardship to the masses of the country. Expression of support or assistance for Mr. Anayo and his family may be sent c/o Rev. Sylvanus Maduka or Rev. Elder Jean White, 56 Knight's Hill, West Norwood, London, England SE 27.

CORRECTION!

In addition to churches in the Southwest District, MCC of Greater Kansas City has been faithfully supporting Rev. Bob Arthur's ministry in Birmingham, England. Sorry for the omission last month!

RESUMES REQUESTED

The Board of Elders, in keeping with the mandate of General Conference, is looking at resumes for additional appointments to the Fellowship Finance Committee from qualified Third World persons.

The Fellowship Finance Committee meets at least once per year and at General Conferences to oversee the budget process for the Fellowship. Please include all information that would be relevant. If you have any questions feel free to call Elder Michael Mank (415) 648-6006 or Elder Nancy Wilson (213) 464-5100.